



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/692,215	10/23/2003	Kasy Srinivas	MS306690.1/MSFTP534US	8230
27195	7590	12/12/2008		
AMIN, TUROCY & CALVIN, LLP			EXAMINER	
127 Public Square			HARPER, LEON JONATHAN	
57th Floor, Key Tower				
CLEVELAND, OH 44114			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2166	
			NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			12/12/2008	ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

doctet1@thepatentattorneys.com
hholmes@thepatentattorneys.com
lpasterchek@thepatentattorneys.com

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/692,215

Applicant(s)

SRINIVAS ET AL.

Examiner

Leon J. Harper

Art Unit

2166

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 September 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4,6-16 and 51-62 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4,6-16 and 51-62 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. The amendment filed on 9/11/2008 has been entered. Claims 1, 2, 4, 6-16 and 51 has been amended. Claims 52-62 have been added. All other claims have been cancelled. Accordingly, claims 1, 2, 4, 6-16, 51 and 52-62 are pending in this office action.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 2, 4, 6-16, 51 and 52-62 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 6-16, 51 and 52-62 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by US 20040117404 (hereinafter Crivella)

As for claim 1 Crivella discloses: at least one processor that executes a management component that coordinates storage, retrieval, querying and manipulation of disparate multimedia files as one entity of data (See paragraph 0064) , the management component employs one or more schemas to retain and manipulate the disparate files with each file associated with one schema (See paragraph 0071), the one or more schemas can include at least one of a common schema or a schema, derived from the common schema, and associated with a particular file type (See paragraph 0073); and a computer-readable storage medium that retains the disparate multimedia files managed by the management component, the computer-readable storage medium retains the disparate files in accordance with the one or more schemas employed to manage the disparate files (See paragraph 0084).

As for claim 2, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated, and further Crivella discloses: the disparate files comprise one or more of audio, video, image or document files (See paragraph 0063).

As for claim 4, the rejection of claim 3 is incorporated, and further Crivella discloses: the management component that establishes links between disparate files via forming relationships between disparate files with data included in the one or more schemas, the links can include relationships with one or more contact items such that the manage component utilizes the one or more contact items in connection with querying across and within the disparate files (See paragraph 0095).

As for claim 6, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated, and further Crivella discloses: the management component locates, associates and suggests metadata for a received file, the suggested metadata includes information indicative of a level confidence that the suggested metadata corresponds to the received file (See paragraph 0087).

As for claim 7, the rejection of claim 6 is incorporated, and further Crivella discloses: at least one of the suggested metadata is manually selected by user or automatically selected by the management component and associated with the file (See paragraph 0090).

As for claim 8, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated, and further Crivella discloses: the management component resolves an association between a received file and an originating source of the received file (See figure 2 note: classification).

As for claim 9, the rejection of claim 8 is incorporated, and further Crivella discloses: the management component stores an original and the resolved association with the received file (See figure 2 note classification).

As for claim 10, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated, and further Crivella discloses: the management component associates one or more ratings with a file (See paragraph 0080).

As for claim 11, the rejection of claim 10 is incorporated, and further Crivella discloses: the one or more ratings comprises one or more of a parental, a quality and a user rating (See paragraph 0082 note: user defined folders).

As for claim 12, the rejection of claim 10 is incorporated, and further Crivella discloses: the one or more ratings is associated with one or more of an audio, a movie and a television rating (See paragraph 0082).

As for claim 13, the rejection of claim 10 is incorporated, and further Crivella discloses: the one or more ratings is employed in connection with querying across the disparate files (See paragraph 0071).

As for claim 14, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated, and further Crivella discloses: the management component maintains a history of a stored file (See paragraph 0090).

As for claim 15, the rejection of claim 14 is incorporated, and further Crivella discloses: the file history is utilized in connection with intelligent decision-making to automate at least one of execution, manipulation and access to the file (See paragraph 0088).

As for claim 16, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated, and further Byrne discloses: the management component generates one or more sub- parts for video, the sub-parts are associated with respective portions of the video and can be utilized to return to respective portions of the video (See paragraph 0076).

As for claim 51 discloses: a computer-readable storage medium that retains a multimedia file system that stores disparate multimedia files based at least in part on selected schemas (See paragraph 0064), the schemas can include at least one of a generic schema, an audio schema or a video schema; and at least one processor that executes: a management component that manages and facilitates storage of the disparate multimedia files retained in the multimedia file system (See paragraph 0074), the management component selects a schema for a given file based at least in part on characteristics of the file, the management component enables uniform access to the disparate multimedia files via the selected schemas in accordance with the selected schemas (See paragraph 0073); and an application program interface generation component that produces at least one application program interface based at least in part on the selected schemas, the application program interface enables one or more applications to interact with the disparate multimedia files in accordance with the schemas selected to store the files (See paragraph 0067).

As for claim 52 the rejection of claim 51 is incorporated and further discloses: the management component establishes links between the disparate multimedia files through connections indicated in the schemas (See paragraph 0095).

As for claim 53 the rejection of claim 51 is incorporated and further discloses: the links can include a link between a multimedia file and a contact item, the contact item is associated with a person and can include at least one of a mailing address, a phone number, an e-mail address, e-mails to and from the associated person, or references to additional information regarding the associated person (See paragraph 0100).

As for claim 54 the rejection of claim 51 is incorporated and further discloses: the link between the multimedia file and the contact item can include a role that defines a connection between the person associated with the contact item and the multimedia file (See paragraph 0100).

As for claim 55 the rejection of claim 51 is incorporated and further discloses: the at least one application program interface provides a framework for an application developer to arbitrarily generate an application that works uniformly across and within the disparate multimedia files (See paragraph 0067).

As for claim 56 the rejection of claim 51 is incorporated and further discloses: the selected schemas provide seamless identification, differentiation and access to the disparate files stored within the multimedia file system (See paragraph 0022).

As for claim 57 discloses: obtaining a multimedia file to retain in the computer-readable medium; selecting a schema from a plurality of schema to employ in retaining the multimedia file, the schema can include at least one of a common schema or a schema particular to a file type; retaining the multimedia file in the computer-readable medium based at least in part on the selected schema; generating an application program interface based at least in part on the selected schema, the application program interface enables uniform access to the multimedia file; and managing the retained multimedia file based at least in part on requests received via the application program interface and the selected schema.

As for claim 58 the rejection of claim 57 is incorporated and further discloses: the schema particular to the file type can be at least one of an audio schema or a video schema (See paragraph 0076).

As for claim 59 the rejection of claim 57 is incorporated and further Crivella discloses: the computer-readable medium is a data store (See paragraph 0073).

As for claim 60 the rejection of claim 57 is incorporated and further Crivella discloses: the computer-readable medium is a file system (See paragraph 0020 note server).

As for claim 61 the rejection of claim 57 is incorporated and further Crivella discloses: establishing at least one link between the retained multimedia file and one or more other files (See paragraph 0095).

As for claim 62 the rejection of claim 61 is incorporated and further Crivella discloses: establishing the at least one link comprises including references in a schema associated with the retained multimedia file to the one or more files (See paragraph 0098).

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Leon J. Harper whose telephone number is 571-272-0759. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30AM - 4:00Pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hosain T. Alam can be reached on 571-272-3978. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

LJH
Leon J. Harper
December 7, 2008

/Khanh B. Pham/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2166